

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method for controlling a printer comprising:

a hold mode procedure, wherein the hold mode procedure may be enabled for any toner station or enabled only for at least one special toner station;

a toner station identification procedure, wherein if the hold mode procedure is enabled only for at least one special toner station, the toner station identification procedure determines if a toner station installed in the printer is a special toner station; and

wherein the hold mode procedure comprises, automatically determining zero or more job ticket attributes for a job ticket, placing the printer into a hold status until the job ticket is approved, wherein when the job ticket is approved, allowing printing.

2. A method for controlling a printer according to claim 1, wherein placing the printer into a hold status until the job ticket is approved comprises allowing automatic changes to the zero or more job ticket attributes, if automatic changes are enabled for the job ticket.

3. A toner-controlled preprinting procedure, as claimed in Claim 1, wherein placing the printer into a hold status until the job ticket is approved comprises allowing manual changes to the zero or more job ticket attributes, if manual changes are enabled for the job ticket.

4. A method for toner-controlled printing comprising:

(A) determining if a pre-print procedure is enabled only for at least one special toner station; wherein if the pre-print procedure is enabled only for at least one special toner station special, determining if an installed toner station is one of the at least one

special toner stations, wherein if the installed toner station is one of the at least one special toner stations or if the pre-print procedure is enabled not only for at least one special toner station, automatically determining zero or more of a plurality of attributes of a print ticket entered into the printer, wherein determining zero or more of a plurality of attributes of a print ticket entered into the printer comprises, determining if a corresponding database job ticket exists, wherein if the corresponding database job ticket does not exist, placing the printer in a hold status until the job ticket entered into the printer is approved; and

(B) if the job ticket entered into the printer is approved, or the corresponding database job ticket exists, allowing printing.

5. A method for toner-controlled printing, as claimed in Claim 4, wherein the special toner station is an MICR toner station.

6. A method for toner-controlled printing, as claimed in Claim 4, wherein automatically determining zero or more of the plurality of attributes of a print ticket entered in to the printer further comprises applying job overrides and job suggestions.

7. A method for toner-controlled printing, as claimed in Claim 4, wherein automatically determining zero or more of the plurality of attributes of a print ticket entered into the printer comprises automatically applying one or more attributes of a corresponding database job ticket.

8. A method for toner-controlled printing as claimed in Claim 4, wherein placing the printer in a hold status until the job ticket is approved comprises determining whether manual changes are enabled for the job ticket.

9. A method for toner-controlled printing as claimed in Claim 8, wherein if manual changes are enabled for the job ticket, allowing manual application of changes to at least one of the plurality of attributes of the job ticket.

10. A method for toner-controlled printing as claimed in Claim 9, wherein allowing manual application of changes to at least one of the plurality of attributes of the job ticket comprises allowing manually changing at least one of the plurality of attributes of the job ticket.

11. A method for toner-controlled printing as claimed in Claim 9, wherein allowing manual changes to at least one of the plurality of attributes of the job ticket comprises allowing manually applying job attributes of the corresponding database job tickets to the job ticket.

12. A method for toner-controlled printing as claimed in Claim 4 further comprising sending notification, wherein the notification includes the job ticket.

13. A method for MICR toner-controlled printing comprising:

(A) determining whether a hold jobs mode is enabled, wherein if the hold jobs mode is enabled, determining if the hold jobs mode is enabled only for special toner stations;

(B) if the hold jobs mode is only enabled only for special toner stations and only MICR toner stations are special toner stations, determining whether an MICR toner station is installed in the printer;

(C) if the MICR toner station is installed in the printer or the hold jobs mode is not only enabled for special toner stations, automatically determining zero or more of a plurality of job ticket attributes, wherein automatically determining zero or more of a plurality of job ticket attributes comprises (1) determining whether overrides and suggestions are enabled, wherein if overrides and suggestions are enabled, applying overrides and suggestions and (2) determining whether auto job ticket scanning is enabled, wherein if auto job ticket scanning is enabled, determining whether the job ticket has a corresponding database job ticket, wherein if the job ticket has a corresponding database job ticket, applying job attributes of the corresponding database job ticket to the plurality of job ticket attributes and allowing printing;

(D) if the job ticket does not have a corresponding database job ticket, placing the printer into a hold status until the job ticket is approved, comprising, determining (1) whether manual changes are enabled for the job ticket, wherein if manual changes are enabled for the job ticket, allowing manual application of changes to at least one of a plurality of job ticket attributes, and (2) determining whether the job ticket has been approved;

(E) if the job ticket has been approved, or if the hold jobs mode is only enabled for special toner stations and the MICR toner station is not installed in the printer, allowing printing; and

(F) determining if a send notification is enabled and if the send notification is enabled, sending notification.

14. A computer readable storage medium storing computer readable program code for controlling a print job, the computer readable program code comprising:

data encoding a table of zero or more toner stations and whether each of the zero or more toner station included in the table of toner stations is a special toner station thereby defining zero or more special toner stations;

a computer code implementing a toner-controlled pre-printing procedure, wherein if enabled, the toner-controlled pre-printing procedure controls printing in response to whether an installed toner station is one of zero or more special toner stations.

15. A toner-controlled printer controller, comprising:

a user interface for receiving print jobs comprising job tickets;

a processor coupled to the user interface;

a memory device coupled to the processor, wherein the memory device stores at least the job ticket received by the user interface, and a list of special toner stations; and

wherein the processor determines if a toner-controlled pre-printing procedure is enabled only for special toner stations, wherein if the toner-controlled pre-printing procedure is enabled only for the toner stations included in the list of special toner stations, it is determined whether an installed toner station is included in the list of special toner stations and if the processor determines that the installed toner station is included in the list of special toner stations, the processor executes a hold mode procedure wherein printing is allowed if the job ticket is approved or if a corresponding database job ticket exists.

16. A toner-controlled printer controller, as claimed in Claim 15, wherein the hold mode procedure comprises automatically determining zero or more job ticket attributes for a job ticket, wherein:

the user interface allows enablement of overrides and suggestions, and auto job ticket scanning;

the memory additionally stores existing overrides and suggestions, and at least one database job ticket wherein each of the at least one database job tickets include at least one attribute; and

the processor applies the existing overrides and suggestions stored in the memory device to the job ticket if overrides and suggestions are enabled, determines if a corresponding database job ticket exists, and applies attributes of the corresponding database job ticket to the job ticket if the corresponding database job ticket exists.

17. A toner-controlled printer controller, as claimed in Claim 15, wherein the toner-controlled preprinting procedure comprises placing the print job into a hold status until the job ticket is approved, wherein:

the user interface allows enablement and disablement of manual changes to the job ticket; and

the processor allows manual changes to the job ticket attributes, if manual changes to the job ticket are enabled, and determines if the job ticket has been approved.

18. A toner-controlled printer controller, as claimed in Claim 15, wherein the toner-controlled pre-printing procedure comprises allowing printing if the processor has determined that the hold mode procedure is not enabled, the installed toner station is not included in the list of special toner stations, the corresponding database job ticket exists, or when the job ticket is approved.

19. A toner-controlled print controller comprising:

a user interface for receiving print jobs wherein each print job comprises a job ticket, and allowing enablement of overrides and suggestions, auto job ticket scanning, and manual changes to the job ticket;

a processor coupled to the user interface;

a memory device coupled to the processor, wherein the memory device stores any job ticket received by the user interface, a list of special toner stations; existing overrides and suggestions, and at least one database job ticket wherein each of the at least one database job tickets include at least one attribute; and

wherein the processor determines if a hold mode procedure is enabled, wherein if the hold mode procedure is enabled, determines if the hold mode is enabled only for toner stations included in the list of special toner stations, wherein if the hold mode is enabled only for toner stations included in the list of toner stations, determines whether an installed toner station is included in the list of special toner stations, wherein if the installed toner station is included in the list of special toner stations, the processor (1) automatically determines zero or more job ticket attributes for a job ticket, wherein the processor applies the existing overrides and suggestions stored in the memory device to the job ticket if overrides and suggestions are enabled, determines if one of the at least one database job tickets is a corresponding database job ticket, wherein if one of the at least one database job tickets is a corresponding database job ticket, applies the at least one attribute of the corresponding database job ticket to the job ticket, (2) if one of the at least one database job tickets is not the corresponding database job ticket, places the job ticket into a hold status until the job ticket is approved, wherein the processor allows manual changes to the job ticket attributes if manual changes to the job ticket are enabled and determines if the job ticket has been approved, and (3) allows printing if the processor determines that the hold mode procedure is not enabled, the installed toner station is not included in the list of special toner stations, if one of the at least one database job tickets is the corresponding database job ticket or if the job ticket has been approved. -

20. A toner-controlled printer, comprising
- a print engine for printing print jobs wherein the print jobs comprise a job ticket; and
- a dedicated computer coupled to the print engine comprising:
- a user interface for receiving the job tickets;
- a processor coupled to the user interface and to the print engine wherein the processor communicates the job tickets to the print engine;
- a memory device coupled to the processor, wherein the memory device stores any job ticket received by the user interface, a list of special toner stations; existing overrides and suggestions, and at least one database job ticket wherein each of the at least one database job tickets include at least one attribute; and
- wherein the processor determines if a hold job mode is enabled, wherein if the hold job mode is enabled, determines if the hold job mode is enabled only for the printer stations included in the list of special toner stations, wherein if the hold job mode is enabled only for the printer stations included in the list of special toner stations, determines if an installed toner station is included in the list of special toner stations, wherein if the processor determines that the installed toner station is included in the list of special toner stations, the processor (1) automatically determines zero or more job ticket attributes for a job ticket, wherein the processor applies the existing overrides and suggestions stored in the memory device to the job ticket if overrides and suggestions are enabled, determines if one of the at least one database job tickets is a corresponding database job ticket, wherein if one of the at least one database job tickets is a corresponding database job ticket, applies the at least one attribute of the is a corresponding database job ticket to the job ticket, (2) if one of the at least one database job tickets is not the corresponding database job ticket, places the job ticket into a hold status until the job ticket is



approved, wherein the processor allows manual changes to the job ticket attributes if manual changes to the job ticket are enabled and determines if the job ticket has been approved, and (3) allows printing if the processor determines that the hold job mode is not enabled, the installed toner station is not included in the list of special toner stations, if one of the at least one database job tickets is the corresponding database job ticket or if the job ticket has been approved.